

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and/or listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-71 without prejudice or disclaimer as to the subject matter recited therein.

72. (New) A system comprising:

a carrier including a carrier enclosure, wherein the carrier enclosure has at least one server blade receiving location; and

a server blade including:

a blade enclosure with two opposing side faces, a front edge face, a rear edge face, an upper edge face and a lower edge face;

wherein the blade enclosure includes at least one ventilation opening on each of the front and rear edge faces to permit a flow of cooling air through the blade enclosure between the front and rear edge faces;

wherein the blade enclosure is configured to slideably mount into the carrier;

wherein the blade enclosure includes at least one connection accessible externally to the blade enclosure and located on the rear edge face; and

wherein the at least one server blade receiving location of the carrier enclosure is configured to receive the server blade.

73. (New) The system of claim 72, wherein the carrier enclosure is further operable to receive at least one power supply operable to supply direct current (DC), at least one switch operable to distribute information signals; and at least one service processor operable to distribute system management signals.

74. (New) The system of claim 73, wherein the carrier further comprises a connection plane carrying at least one conductive path interconnecting at least one carrier connector for carrying power, information signals, and system management signals.

75. (New) The system of claim 74, wherein the connection plane is a midplane.

76. (New) The system of claim 75,
wherein the midplane comprises a first face and a second face;
wherein the at least one server blade receiving location is located at the first face of the midplane; and
wherein a location for receiving the at least one power supply, at least one switch, and at least one service processor is located at the second face of the midplane.

77. (New) The system of claim 76, wherein locations for a plurality of power supplies and a plurality of combined switch and service processor modules are located at the second side of the midplane.

78. (New) The system of claim 75, wherein the midplane is a printed circuit board and the at least one conductive path comprises at least one track on the midplane.

79. (New) The system of claim 75,
wherein the midplane comprises a first face and a second face;
wherein the carrier comprises at least one server blade receiving location with an opening in the first face and at least one server blade receiving location with an opening in the second face for receiving a field replaceable module; and

wherein the connection plane includes at least one connection plane connector for each server blade receiving location and at least one conductive path for interconnecting the at least one connection plane connector.

80. (New) The system of claim 72, wherein the carrier further comprises at least one power supply receiving location configured to receive a field replaceable power supply.

81. (New) The system of claim 80, wherein the carrier comprises two power supply receiving locations, each power supply receiving location being configured to receive a field replaceable power supply.

82. (New) The system of claim 72, wherein the carrier further comprises at least one support module receiving location configured to receive a field replaceable switch.

83. (New) The system of claim 72, wherein the carrier further comprises at least one support module receiving location configured to receive a field replaceable service processor.

84. (New) The system of claim 72, wherein the carrier further comprises at least one support module receiving location configured to receive a field replaceable combined switch and service processor module.

85. (New) The system of claim 84, wherein the carrier comprises two support module receiving locations, each support module receiving location being configured to receive a removable combined switch and service processor module.

86. (New) The system of claim 72, wherein the at least one server blade receiving location comprises a plurality of server blade receiving locations, wherein each server blade receiving location of the plurality of server blade receiving locations is configured to receive the server blade.

87. (New) The system of claim 86, wherein at least one blade enclosure provides electromagnetic shielding.

88. (New) The system of claim 86, wherein at least one of the server blade receiving locations includes at least one guide for guiding the server blade into the server blade receiving location.

89. (New) The system of claim 88, wherein the connection plane is a passive component.

90. (New) The system of claim 72, further comprising a storage blade, wherein the storage blade is configured to be received in the server blade receiving location.

91. (New) The system of claim 72, further comprising at least one indicator board for carrying status indicators, wherein the at least one indicator board is coupled to the carrier.

92. (New) The system of claim 72, wherein the carrier is configured as a rack mountable shelf.

93. (New) The system of claim 92, further comprising fixings for mounting the carrier in a racking system.

94. (New) The system of claim 72, wherein the blade enclosure has a narrow elongate form.

95. (New) The system of claim 94, wherein:

the opposing side faces and the upper and lower edge faces have substantially a same length,

the front and rear edge faces have a length substantially equivalent to the width of the opposing side faces, and

the front and rear edge faces have a width substantially the same as the width of the upper and lower edge faces.